

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/007,152

Examiner

Tadesse Hailu

Applicant(s)

HUGH, HARLAN M.

Art Unit

2173

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment submitted and entered on September 26, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 13, 14, 19 and 20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

#### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Amendment submitted and entered on September 26, 2005.

#### ***Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance***

2. All pending claims 1-9, 13, 14, 19, and 20 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited references, either individually or in combination, are deficient for the purpose of anticipating and/or rendering obvious claims 1-9, 13, 14, 19, and 20. Specifically, the references do not teach or reasonably suggest at least in part *a method of updating a common data source of data items and associations among said data items, wherein a common data source being accessible by more than one client storing copies of at least two of said data items and at least one association between at least two data items*. The references also do not teach or reasonably suggest at least in part *barring other clients from modifying said data item between the time the request is received from said client and confirmation is sent to said client* as specified in claim 1. therefore, claim 1 is allowed. Since dependent claims 2-9 incorporates all the features/limitations of claim 1, these claims also are allowed. With respect to independent claims 13 and 14, the references do not teach or reasonably suggest at least in part *a method for a common data source that is accessible by more than one clients comprising detecting whether more than one of said clients each attempted to send to the common data source the same data item under different identifiers*. Therefore, claims 13 and 14 are allowed.

With respect to independent claims 19 and 20, the references do not teach or reasonably suggest at least in part *an apparatus for a client to modify a display of indicia of at least a first data item and a second data item and at least one association between those two data items, comprising information that is requested from the third repository relevant to whether the requested modification requires the display of any associations between any data items from the first repository with any data items from the second repository as specified in claims 19 and 20*. Therefore, claims 19 and 20 are allowed.

#### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wen Liu, the applicant's representative on December 7, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows: **in the claims:** in line 1 of claims 19 and 20, please replace "the display" to --a display--

#### **Conclusion**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30 – 7:00 ET. If attempts

Art Unit: 2173

to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048 Art Unit 2173.

6. An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Examiner Tadesse Hailu  
Art Unit 2173  
12/9/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tadesse Hailu", written in a cursive style.